

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT GENERAL STATEMENT

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) was established on July 16, 1946, through the consolidation of the General Land Office (created in 1812) and the Grazing Service (formed in 1934), following the provisions of §402 and §403 of the President's Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1946 (60 Stat. 1097). The functions of the BLM and its directorate are also addressed in §301 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) (43 U.S.C. 1731).

### BLM MISSION

*It is the mission of the Bureau of Land Management to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.*

The President's FY 2001 Budget Request for the BLM is \$1,358,955,000 in current budget authority. Included in this request is a programmatic increase of \$56,023,000 and an uncontrollable cost increase of \$20,526,000 for the BLM's principal operating accounts, Management of Lands and Resources and the Oregon and California Grant Lands.

### The Public Lands and Resources

The principal mission of the BLM, as reflected in this FY 2001 budget submission, is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. These lands - 264 million acres in all and more than 560 million acres of subsurface estate - comprise about one-ninth of the entire U.S. land mass. As diverse as the public lands it manages is the array of responsibilities that the BLM oversees. In essence, the BLM is a microcosm of the Department of the Interior as a whole in that it manages for fish and wildlife, energy and minerals, forestry, and wilderness while at the same time is responsible for overseeing paleontology, archaeology and recreation interests. Given these challenges, the BLM attends to the needs of a growing and changing West, forcing it to recognize the increasing demands of public land users while addressing the needs of traditional user groups.

It should be no surprise that the agency with the most diverse mandate is also one of the largest revenue-generating agencies in the Federal government, both in terms of funds that the BLM collects directly and the impact of BLM's mineral leasing activities on Federal revenues. The BLM's activities not only benefit recreationists and traditional land users who hold grazing permits or leases to drill for oil, gas and coal, but they also contribute directly to the viability of states' economies. In FY 2001, the public lands will generate an estimated \$1.4 billion in receipts from various sources including the sale of land and materials, grazing fees, timber sales, recreation use fees, and mineral leasing activities. Nearly one-half of these receipts is shared with states and counties with the balance going to the miscellaneous receipts of the Treasury and others retained by the BLM to support associated program operations. Without question, the BLM's contributions to state and local economies go well beyond revenue sharing,

particularly when one considers the impacts of tourism on economic development and the benefits that communities derive from the BLM's conservation efforts.

### **BLM and the Changing West**

Although sometimes perceived as remote, BLM lands are increasingly becoming the center of current growth patterns in the West. Take for example Nevada, a state in which the BLM manages nearly 50 million acres of public land - or approximately 70% of the total land base - the population growth is expected to be the fastest in the country, increasing 22% between 1995 and 2000. Also, consider the fact that there are 4,136 communities in western states with a combined population of 22.2 million people located within 25 miles of BLM managed lands. Moreover, there are 7,064 communities with a combined population of 40.9 million people within 200 miles of BLM managed lands. The inevitable by-product of such growth is conflict between people and resources and greater demands on the public lands to provide open spaces and leisure opportunities. Nevada is only one example of the severity of the issue that the BLM faces in the West.

Without question the impact of population growth in the West has far-reaching repercussions on the public lands and the way in which the BLM manages resources on-the-ground. All of this comes at a time when the public is demanding more from its public lands and program funding capability is constrained. Consequently, the BLM finds itself in the unenviable position of having difficulty delivering on commitments to its stakeholders.

Accordingly, the BLM's FY 2001 budget proposes increases to deal head-on with the most pressing of these issues, focusing work in four major categories: 1) updating the BLM's planning documents to meet current demands on the public lands; 2) preserving public land treasures - including areas recognized by the Congress and the President and other conservation units - for the benefit, use and enjoyment of current and future generations; 3) restoring threatened watersheds; and 4) addressing BLM facilities, including recreation sites, in order to assure safe visits. The BLM plans to work cooperatively with its stakeholders to gain ground in addressing important on-the-ground issues.

### **BLM Budget Redesign**

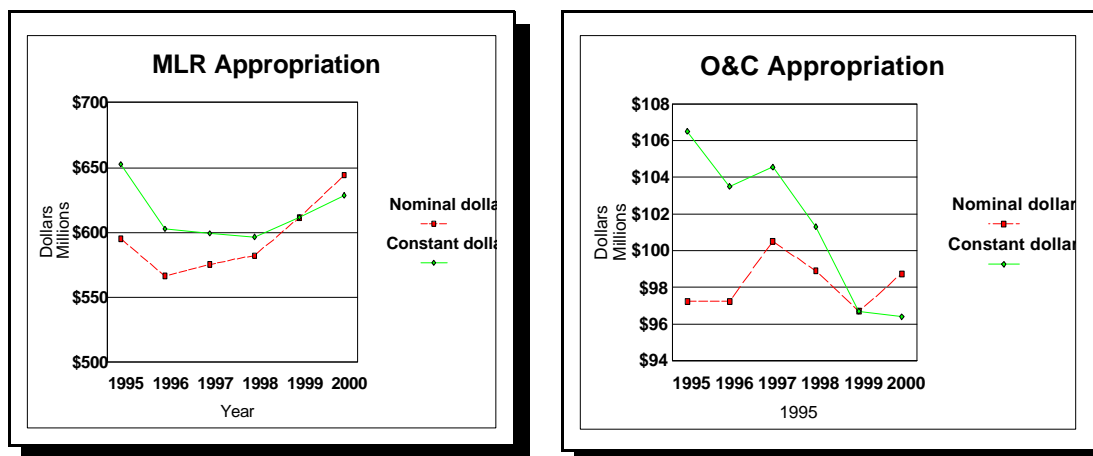
The FY 2001 budget cycle marks the first year that the BLM is operating under its newly redesigned budget process. In addition to the complex challenges associated with managing the public lands in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, there also exists new requirements for greater financial accountability relative to Federal spending. To address these issues, the BLM has developed a new automated data/information system (the Management Information System), a new accounting standards and reporting system based on activity based costing (ABC), and redesigned its budget process to integrate the two systems into decision-making for funding needs and priorities. In the time leading up to submitting this document to the Congress the BLM spent considerable effort focusing its strategic plan into a guide for this year's budget request. This budget reflects input from every one of the BLM's field offices. Also included in this document, for the first time ever, is an array of projects with specific information on geographic location of the project and the estimated funding level by BLM activity/subactivity. This approach

helps demonstrate that the Bureau has a site-specific plan for addressing its resource needs in FY 2001 and beyond.

### 2001 Budget Highlights

The total FY 2001 BLM budget request is \$1,489,423,000, which includes \$1,358,955,000 for current appropriations and \$132,468,000 for permanent accounts. This request includes increases of \$151,643,000 over the FY 2000 enacted level of funding, of which \$127,553,000 are increases for current budget authority. The BLM's FY 2001 budget request supports a total of 10,250 FTE, an increase of 250 FTE or 2.5% above the FY 2000 enacted level.

The tables below show the BLM's appropriated funding level from FY 1995 to FY 2000 for its principal operating accounts, the Management of Lands and Resources and the Oregon and California Grant Lands accounts. Funding has declined in real terms over that period (based on 1999 dollar values), reducing the BLM's on-the-ground capabilities while at the same time the BLM has experienced increased management costs, rising consumer expectations, and a shrinking workforce. Additionally, as populations continue to grow in the western United States, increasing management demands are placed on the BLM. This has created challenges for the BLM in addressing important recreation, community infrastructure, fish and wildlife, lands and other important stakeholder needs and has slowed the BLM's ability to manage the public land as an economic catalyst and stimulant for development.



**Compliance with the Government Performance and Results Act -  
The FY 2001 Budget and the BLM Annual Performance Plan**

The BLM Strategic Plan, which was submitted to the Congress on September 29, 1997, describes the BLM's current day-to-day challenges and opportunities and outlines what the BLM is doing to address them. The BLM is currently revising its Strategic Plan, and the FY 2001 Budget Justification is based on the proposed Strategic Plan. The BLM's efforts toward meeting its Strategic Plan goals are described in the BLM Annual Performance Plan (APP), which is included with this document.

The 2001 APP reflects the Department of the Interior's approach to improving and streamlining the APP and linking the Plan with the budget and cost accounts. The APP presents the BLM's goals and measures and identifies the FY 2001 strategies and resources needed to achieve them, consistent with the proposed BLM FY 2001-2005 Strategic Plan and proposed FY 2001 budget. However, the goals contained in the APP do not cover all of the work that the BLM performs on an annual basis. Rather, the APP focuses on those areas in which the BLM wants to change, improve or track key outcomes which reflect annual performance. The FY 2001 APP also contains the Annual Performance Report for FY 1999 and the updates for the FY 2000 APP, based on enacted budget.

The 2001 APP is organized around eight strategic goals, or program activities - provide opportunities for environmentally responsible recreation; provide opportunities for environmentally responsible commercial activities; preserve natural and cultural heritage resources; reduce threats to public health, safety and property; improve land, resource, and title information; provide economic and technical assistance; understand the condition of the public lands; and restore at-risk resources and maintain functioning systems. Each goal has associated long-term and performance goals that are addressed in the FY 2001 budget. The APP also discusses strategies for improving organizational effectiveness.

Consistent with the BLM's proposed Strategic Plan and FY 2001 Annual Performance Plan, the FY 2001 Budget Request embodies the goals and strategies contained in the GPRA program activities discussed above. The following section discusses the highlights of the BLM's FY 2001 requested budget increases, consistent with the Bureau's FY 2001 Annual Performance Plan:

**Land Use Planning to Support Sustainable Resource Decisions****GPRA Program Activity - Understand the Condition of Public Lands**

*The BLM is requesting \$19,000,000 to update land use plans so that they accurately address the growing demands and needs of the public lands, thereby supporting land and resource allocation decisions. The requested increase in funding will allow the BLM to achieve its strategic goal of "understanding the condition of public lands" by evaluating and updating existing land use plans and associated National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents.*

**Background**

Over the past two decades, the magnitude and complexity of resource issues relating to management of public lands has grown at a rate far exceeding the BLM's ability to resolve associated land use conflicts, let alone complete and maintain a systematic and comprehensive planning effort for the expected demands of the next several decades. The BLM's Land Use Plans (LUPs) establish management direction for areas that typically contain 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 acres of public land. LUPs identify appropriate land uses, singularly or in combination, based on related levels of use, resource capabilities and condition goals. In addition, they identify management practices available to achieve desired conditions while protecting identified resources. LUPs are developed with considerable public involvement and normally are prepared in conjunction with Environmental Impact Statements (EIS). Language in the FY 2000 Congressional report accompanying the Interior and Related Agencies appropriations bill recognized the BLM's LUP deficiencies and requested that the BLM submit as part of its FY 2001 budget request "the results of its ongoing analysis and review into the required level of land use planning and NEPA review actions the Bureau will have to undertake in order to correct deficiencies" and the requested level of funds and other resources needed to address these problems. This report is included in the "Other Exhibits" section of this document.

Since completion of the BLM's first land use plans and associated EISs, several major issues have emerged, such as new standards in implementing the Clean Water and Clean Air Acts, listing of many species under the Endangered Species Act, rapid population growth in the West, and new laws which require other Federal and State agencies to participate in activities occurring on Federal lands. As a result, the BLM is increasingly finding its land use plans and NEPA documents out of date, not reflecting current natural resource and/or socio-economic conditions, not keeping pace with changes in cumulative impact analysis, and not addressing new environmental standards. Therefore, it is imperative that the BLM begin aggressively updating its planning base.

Absent such a planning update, the BLM will be forced to continue to rely on aging documentation to support its core programs and permitting activities, which may cause unforeseen environmental damage. This in turn will increase BLM's vulnerability to litigation, further compounding the situation by diverting BLM staff and resources from proactive land management efforts. A less desirable option for avoiding this situation could be for the BLM to

initiate individual LUP amendments for requested actions not adequately addressed in the older plans. This approach, however, would be inefficient, providing only short-term, piece-meal decisions and delaying any decisions until the planning and NEPA process could be completed.

Funding for the Resource Management Planning budget subactivity has declined from \$9,870,000 in FY 1993 to \$6,444,000 in FY 1999. Over this same period, the complexity and intensity of public interest and involvement in land management increased dramatically, resulting in escalating planning costs, limiting the number of planning efforts the BLM can address. The programs that benefit from planning efforts (depending on the specific issues involved) have been contributing funding; however, their capability to fund planning falls far short of meeting overall current needs. Now is the time to address these requisite needs since rapid and sustained population growth in the West is expected to continue, increasing not only the challenge to cope, but the vulnerability of the environmental resources.

The BLM recently undertook a review of its core planning and NEPA documents to determine its most critical planning/NEPA needs. From this review, the BLM identified priority planning efforts for the next several years. The criteria applied during this review included: 1) the need to address resource conditions, 2) anticipated changes in use (demand) not addressed in planning/NEPA documents, 3) program or administrative requirements the BLM has not fulfilled, such as new clean water standards, and 4) outside interest concerns (independently recognized issues). Known priority areas include the oil and gas development regions of Wyoming, Utah and New Mexico, and the desert Southwest, where new listings of threatened and endangered species must be addressed. A current legislative proposal deals with several Military Land Withdrawals, which if adopted, will require the Secretary of the Interior to develop a plan for the management of each area withdrawn. Additionally, the BLM will be developing land use plans unique to each of the nine Congressionally designated National Conservation Areas, and certain other administratively designated areas, each contributing to the BLM's challenge of managing priority planning efforts.

Absent the requested increase in funding, the BLM's planning/NEPA base will continue to remain outdated. Environmental degradation will likely accelerate simply because the Bureau does not have the capability to identify solutions to resource issues through the planning/NEPA process. Where decisions are made without complete scientific data, the BLM will be subject to public and court challenges, further eroding base programs and limiting on-the-ground activities.

Requested increases are preliminary estimates based on current resource conditions and available data. Priorities and funding levels may be subject to change as data or resource conditions warrant.

**Project Summary Table,  
Land Use Planning to Support Sustainable Resource Decisions  
(requested funding levels are increases to base)**

(\$000s)

St	Area	Soil, Water & Air	Range Mgt.	Wildlife Mgt.	Fish. Mgt.	T&E Species	Wild. Mgt.	Rec. Mgt.	Oil & Gas Mgt.	Other Mineral Res.	Plann- ing	Total
<b>National Conservation Areas</b>												
Steese RMP (AK), Gila Box RMP (AZ), San Pedro RMP (AZ), King Range RMP (CA), Gunnison Gorge RMP (CO), Birds of Prey RMP (ID), El Malpais RMP (NM), Red Rock (NV).												
<b>Subtotal</b>		180	80	50	30	115	0	195	0	0	100	750
<b>National Monuments</b>												
Agua Fria NM RMP (AZ), Grand Canyon-Parashant NM RMP (AZ), California Coastal NM RMP (CA).												
<b>Subtotal</b>		260	115	125	0	125	0	365	0	0	320	1,310
<b>Other Planning Needs</b>												
AK	Ft. Greely RMPA	20			40	20		45				125
AK	Ft. Wainwright RMPA	20			40	20		45				125
AK	NPRA Colville River Plan	25			75	25						125
AK	Southwest RMP										500	500
AZ	BarryGoldwater Plan	50		20		80						150
AZ	Bradshaw Foothills RMPA	50		40	10	60		60			30	250
AZ	Lake Havasu RMP	50		50	100	50		100				350
AZ	Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan	20	20			60						100
CA	East San Diego City RMP	100	40	70		150		90				450
CA	NE CA Assessment	100	125	45	25	135		70				500
CA	Otay Mtn Wilderness RMP			25		65	50				10	150
CO	Grand Junction RMP						50		75		25	150
CO	Little Snake RMPA (Vermillion Basin)						50	60	40			150
CO	San Juan/San Miguel Coalbed Methane RMPA	20						50	530			600
ES	Jackson Mineral Lease Planning Anal.								20			20
ES	Douglas Point, MD Assessment							40				40

St	Area	Soil, Water & Air	Range Mgt.	Wildlife Mgt.	Fish. Mgt.	T&E Species	Wild. Mgt.	Rec. Mgt.	Oil & Gas Mgt.	Other Mineral Res.	Plann- ing	Total
ES	Michigan RMPA								20			20
ID	Bruneau RMP		75			50		50			65	240
ID	Pocatello RMP	50	150	50		50		70			50	420
MT	Dillon RMP		70			50					130	250
MT	Powder River Assessment	20		20				50	10			100
NM	Farmington RMP	115	175	50		100		60	390	75	100	1,065
NM	White Sands RMP (McGregor Range)	100	75			75					50	300
NM	Socorro RMP							50				50
NV	Las Vegas RMPA							70				70
NV	Naval Air Station - Fallon Plan										60	60
NV	Nellis Range RMPA	150									200	350
NV	Paradise - Denio & Sonoma-Gerlach RMP		130					50			70	250
NV	Walker & Lahontan RMP	40	90	10				60				200
OR	Lakeview RMP							50			100	150
OR	Steens Mtn Plan		20		20			20				60
OR	Upper Deschutes RMP	75	75	60	60	40		60				370
UT	Price River RMP	50	110	50		100		80	160		150	700
UT	San Juan RMP		30	40				60	70			200
UT	Regional Wilderness Amendments						1,200					1,200
UT	Uintah Basinwide Assessment	170	230	60		100		20	220			800
WY	Powder River Basin RegionalAssessment	35	70	35		110		35	515	200		1,000
WY	SW WY Regional Assessment	150	175	100		200		50	650	425		1,750
ALL	Planning/NEPA Base Funding										2,000	2,000
ALL	Canada Lynx Plan Amendments		95	50		60		55			40	300



St	Area	Soil, Water & Air	Range Mgt.	Wildlife Mgt.	Fish. Mgt.	T&E Species	Wild. Mgt.	Rec. Mgt.	Oil & Gas Mgt.	Other Mineral Res.	Plann- ing	Total
ALL	Resource Assessments & Conservation Strategies for Special Status Species	50	100	50		300			100			600
ALL	Plan Evaluations for OHV Mgt.					60		390				450
ALL	Veg. Mgt. EISs	100	100									200
<b>Subtotal</b>		1,560	1,955	825	370	1,960	1,350	1,840	2,800	700	3,580	16,940
<b>Total</b>		2,000	2,150	1,000	400	2,200	1,350	2,400	2,800	700	4,000	19,000

(Terminology: RMP- Resource Management Plan; RMPA- Resource Management Plan Amendment; EIS- Environmental Impact Statement; NEPA- National Environmental Policy Act)

**Public Land Treasures****GPRA Program Activity - Preserve Natural and Cultural Heritage Resources**

*The BLM is requesting \$16,023,000 to proactively address operational issues relating to the protection and management of the BLM's public land treasures. The requested increase in funding will allow the BLM to achieve its strategic goal of "Preserving Natural and Cultural Heritage Resources" by protecting these areas from the demands that are being placed on their biological, scenic, and cultural resources.*

**Background**

The special places on BLM-managed public lands offer a wealth of possibilities for all Americans: to experience our western history in the same remote landscape as the pioneers; to hike along the Lewis and Clark and other historic Trails; to savor solitude and complete silence; to raft down wild and scenic rivers; to watch rare wildlife species; or to ponder the mysteries of ancient rock art. All these experiences are possible when visiting the Nation's public land treasures. However, signs of visitation and degradation abound at many of these sites. Trash and waste pollute popular camping sites along designated wild and scenic rivers; off-highway vehicles (OHVs) and all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) gouge new roads and trails into fragile wilderness, causing scars--many of which are permanent; vandals carve initials into or deface historic buildings; and looters damage archaeological sites by tearing into ancient pueblos in their search for artifacts. Dwindling short- and mixed-grass prairie habitats in Montana, North and South Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico are home to many unique wildlife species that are currently threatened with extinction, or have declined in numbers dramatically over historic levels. In the intermountain West, much of the sagebrush ecosystem has been transformed as annual, non-endemic grasses and weeds dominate ever-increasing areas, leading to more frequent wildfires.

In broadest terms, over 3,000 special places on the public lands have been Congressionally or Administratively designated for special management, in recognition of their one-of-a-kind qualities. Because the list of BLM-designated lands is quite long, the Bureau has initiated a multi-year process whereby needs at the highest priority designated areas are addressed first, with other designated areas to receive funding in subsequent budget requests. The sites shown on the following pages represent the highest priorities to the Bureau, within available funding. Such areas include the four national monuments and nine national conservation areas that BLM manages, and the Headwaters Forest Preserve, all of which will receive additional funding and attention through this initiative. Other public land treasures addressed in this initiative are wild and scenic rivers, national historic trails, and many other areas designated for resource values that include unique species, recreation opportunities, and unparalleled scenic vistas. Some of this funding would also be directed to important areas in sagebrush and prairie grassland ecosystems to better protect the unique plants and animals in these at-risk habitats. The majority of these places require special management consideration, necessitating additional

funding for resource management and protection.

The biological, cultural, and scenic treasures on public lands and waters are increasingly at risk because of the backlog of management, restoration, and protection needs being left unfunded as the BLM faces an ever-increasing workload. Expanding communities increasingly depend on the BLM to accommodate growth and development, ATV use is growing exponentially, and the number of species listed under the Endangered Species Act is increasing. The need for increased protection of public land national heritage assets continues to grow. However, a shortage of resources and personnel in the BLM's field offices requires immediate attention. Through this initiative the BLM aims to provide its most significant public land treasures the attention they deserve.

### ***BLM's Increasing Workload***

Type of Special Area*	Acres/Miles Managed in Fiscal Year 1986	Acres/Miles Managed Today	Percent Increase in Acreage
National Conservation Areas	10,756,025 acres	11,749,915 acres	9%
National Monuments	0 acres	2,965,100 acres 840 miles of coastline	29,651%
National Historic Trails	1,498 miles	3,590 miles	140%
Wild and Scenic Rivers	1,439 miles	2,038 miles	42%
Designated Wilderness Areas	368,739 acres	5,279,212 acres	1,332%
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	4,720,231 acres	13,111,829 acres	178%

\*Not all types of designations are included in this list

To ensure that special places on the public lands are protected and managed so that our grandchildren can enjoy the natural and cultural treasures they offer, the BLM is requesting a budget increase of \$16,023,000. In FY 2001, the BLM would direct the increased funding to the highest priority special places; namely, national monuments; national conservation areas; designated wild and scenic rivers; the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail; the Headwaters Forest Preserve; and in keeping with legislation passed by the Congress last year, the Otay Mountain Wilderness. Some of this funding would also be directed to other important areas in sagebrush and prairie grassland ecosystems to better protect the unique plants and animals in these at-risk habitats. The FY 2001 budget request does not include additional funding for "Administratively-designated" sites such as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. In subsequent years, as the backlog of needs at the highest priority areas is eliminated, funding could be directed to additional at risk special places.

One of the BLM's FY 2001 strategic goals is to improve the condition of Congressionally-designated special management areas currently at risk. Therefore, most of the requested increase is directed to on-the-ground efforts that will stem the degradation and/or destruction of the nation's irreplaceable national heritage. This increase will be used to: work with partners to

complete on-the-ground restoration projects; provide better visitor services and on-site patrols; increase efforts to interpret and educate the public; begin to address OHV trespass problems; and complete crucial inventories and other actions needed to ensure appropriate management of these areas.

This initiative was developed in coordination with another critically important initiative: "Land Use Planning to Support Sustainable Resource Decisions." This complementary initiative provides, in part, that each of the national monuments and national conservation areas be managed under its own land use plan, and not as part of a plan that encompasses a larger resource area or BLM district that has different management requirements.

**National Monuments (+\$5,758,000)** - All four BLM-managed national monuments would receive additional funding in this request, including the three recently designated monuments. Funding for the new national monuments is needed to promote their conservation, and to provide increased planning, education and interpretation. These recently designated sites have long deserved such attention. Designation as monuments provides the opportunity to address longstanding needs. Without additional funding to hire seasonal employees and support on-the-ground ranger staff, visitor services at these special places will continue to be lacking or, in some cases, non-existent. Interim plans must be developed and implemented to provide protection and management and to meet critical maintenance requirements so that public use can be accommodated consistent with resource protection. Because all four of these national monuments were designated to protect objects of scientific and historic interest, the BLM wants to ensure that historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other values in these areas are preserved for the future.

The Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (NM) in Utah is a good example of how BLM can meet its strategic goals of preserving the Nation's natural and cultural heritage while providing opportunities for environmentally responsible recreation. In addition, while much of the Monument shows little evidence of human influence, certain specific uses, such as hunting, fishing and livestock grazing, still continue. The BLM will use its successes at the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument as a model to build upon as it takes up the challenge of managing the Nation's newest national monuments. These successes include establishing solid community relationships and meeting a diversity of uses and interests.

Under this initiative, the BLM is requesting an additional \$460,000 for the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument to initiate the first year of a five-year archaeological site survey and to complete the surveys for the following threatened and endangered species: Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Mexican Spotted Owl, Kanab Ambersail, Ute Ladies' Tresses, Kodachrome Bladderpod, and Jones' Cycladenia. In addition, the FY 2001 budget request contains \$6,400,000 from within BLM's base funding for ongoing management. The requested increase of \$460,000 for survey furthers the purposes of establishing the Monument by conducting scientific studies on its Monument's archaeological, cultural, paleontological, and biological values. In FY 2001 BLM will work collaboratively with local partners to implement the Resource Management Plan and to complete construction of the Cannonville, Big Water, and Glendale visitor contact stations. The FY 2001 request also includes an additional \$5.3 million for construction of a visitor center and administrative and scientific research facility in Escalante, Utah (funded in the BLM Construction Appropriation). Through these efforts, the BLM will ensure that this extraordinary region will be used, protected, and enjoyed by future visitors as part of the

American public land heritage.

Agua Fria NM, Grand Canyon-Parashant NM, and the California Coastal NM - like the Grand Staircase-Escalante NM - include unique resources that require permanent protection. The monument designation itself provides a form of protection in limiting future development or expansion of commodity-based uses beyond what is currently authorized. The budget offers another tool to protect these outstanding cultural, historical, and scientific treasures. Additional funding provides resources that these areas have long needed, including additional law enforcement to prevent vandalism, more visitor patrols, and site stewardship. Boundary identification and survey, road maintenance for safety and resource protection, signing, visitor facilities (such as temporary restrooms at popular parking spots), and archaeological site protection and interpretation, are all needs that have arisen from increased use as nearby communities such as Phoenix, Arizona have grown. The requested additional funding for the BLM's new monuments will be used to maximize each visitor's enjoyment of these places by providing quality education and outreach materials, maintaining safe and well marked facilities, while managing resources in the new monuments so that their scientific, historical, and other values are retained.

**National Conservation Areas (+\$4,868,000)** - The BLM manages nine Congressionally-designated National Conservation Areas (NCAs). These special places were designated by Congress to provide for the conservation, protection, enhancement, use, and management of outstanding public land natural and cultural assets for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

The California Desert Conservation Area is the largest NCA managed by the BLM, with more than 9,500,000 million acres of public lands. In FY 2001 \$1,200,000 would be allocated to projects selected for their compatibility with other bureaus' efforts across the desert region by the multi-bureau California Desert Managers Group. Of that total, \$600,000 is contained within the BLM's base budget and will be directed toward burro removal in key Herd Management Areas. The remaining \$600,000 is targeted to: cooperative habitat restoration, including salt cedar control in riparian areas; implementation of high priority desert tortoise recovery activities; and clean up of illegal dumps sites and abandoned mines in the Desert. An additional \$377,000 would be used for projects that complement this work, especially restoration of Threatened and Endangered species habitat (particularly the desert tortoise), protection of at-risk cultural resources, and rehabilitation of damaged wilderness areas. Human activities in the California Desert over the past century have resulted in tremendous damage to the fragile desert ecosystem including: unplanned developments; illegal dumping; spread of non-native plant and animal species; unauthorized off-highway vehicle use; and other types of resource damage. Additional funding for the California Desert Conservation Area will provide the BLM the resources it needs to aggressively begin implementing the land management plans to correct the problems caused by historic uses.

A backlog of restoration and management needs at the BLM's eight other National Conservation Areas (NCA) also exists. For example, the recently designated Gunnison Gorge NCA is expected to see increased visitor use. The Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park (also recently designated) is contiguous to the NCA, and certain users will choose to visit the BLM-managed lands because they prefer the "wild", but less restrictive experience that these lands offer. In particular, access to the river is easier to obtain in the NCA than on upstream Park

lands. Public interest in setting appropriate use restrictions for OHVs and in balancing the needs of private and commercial outfitter use is very high. Noxious weeds are expanding with the increased use, and efforts to eradicate them must be increased. To address these and similar threats to resources within the BLM's NCAs, increased funding is requested to preserve their world class natural and scenic values and ensure opportunities for multiple use are not shut down by litigation and conflict.

**Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail (+\$1,247,000)** - The BLM will direct additional funding to the public lands and waters along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail to prepare for the projected influx of tourists before, during, and after the commemoration of the bicentennial of Lewis and Clark's expedition. The national attention is expected to peak between 2003 and 2006, and will be heightened by the increasing trend in cultural tourism in the West. The BLM estimates that the number of additional enthusiasts visiting the Trail during the Bicentennial will range from one million to four million visitors. These visitors are over and above the normal tourism numbers for those states that contain segments of the Trail. The BLM's facilities, interpretation, and staffing levels are barely meeting growing demands for recreation opportunities. Therefore, this funding increase is crucial to improving the BLM's staffing and management of sites along the Trail and to providing visitor amenities for activities associated with the Commemoration. Without additional resources, the agency cannot ensure the health, safety, and security of the public, while also protecting the natural, cultural, and heritage resources that these visitors want to enjoy. The BLM will also use the increased funding to support enhanced collaboration with local communities, other State and Federal agencies, Tribal governments, and numerous partners in the planning and implementation of commemoration activities. An additional \$228,000 for Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail improvements to facilities and infrastructure maintenance is included in the Safe Visits initiative.

Specifically, the FY 2001 requested funding increase will begin the implementation of the BLM's six-year budget plan. This plan identifies the work necessary for preservation of the historic and prehistoric values along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail; to improve and develop facilities to satisfy the needs of an dramatically expanded visitor base; and to conserve and restore landscape settings. Examples of this project work include protecting Captain Lewis' first campsite in Idaho; upgrading kiosks, adding interpretative signs, re-furbishing parking and visitor staging areas at Lemhi Pass in Salmon, Idaho; developing partnerships with local communities for the "Moving Marker" Project of the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council and the BLM's Eastern States Office; providing an historical perspective on the development of the West through Public Lands Records in the BLM's Eastern States Office; and correcting and maintaining the Thibodeau Campground on the Blackfoot River Corridor in Montana. The goals of the six-year plan are to enhance each visitor's experience of the Trail; restore and protect the Trail itself; ensure that Native Americans are fully involved; improve access to Trail-related sites; and conduct this work through partnerships whenever possible.

**Other Conservation Areas (+\$3,050,000) -**

**Otay Mountain Wilderness** - The Otay Mountain Wilderness area is situated just north of the border between the United States and Mexico. Otay Mountain Wilderness is one of the last remaining pristine locations in western San Diego County and is internationally known for its high diversity of unique and sensitive plants. The Otay Mountain Wilderness area serves as a multi-species core reserve for the City of San Diego's Multi-Species Conservation Plan, while other areas of the Mountain provide habitat for sensitive species such as the Mexican flannelbush, Tecate Cypress, and the Quino checkerspot butterfly. Recently, there has been a dramatic increase in illegal immigrants entering the United States from Mexico through this area. Unfortunately, this results in increasing numbers of roads and foot trails, and in trash and human waste being left behind. There has also been an unusually high incidence of fires. In response to this situation, Federal and State agencies have jointly stepped up their fire fighting and law enforcement efforts in this area. This funding will help support the BLM's partnership efforts with the City and County of San Diego and other local jurisdictions, with the Fish and Wildlife Service, the California Department of Fish and Game, and the Border Patrol in this area. Specifically, the requested \$200,000 increase would provide funding to monitor and survey sensitive species, and to restore damage to the wilderness area on the Mountain from illegal roads and trails.

**Headwaters Forest Preserve** - The BLM's 2001 budget request contains \$1,250,000 from within the base and an additional \$50,000 to support the management of the newly acquired Headwaters Forest. Annual management responsibilities for the Headwaters property are shared with the State, other Federal agencies, and the private sector. The agency's portion of the annual management cost including the funding increase requested in this budget (an estimated \$300,000) is for normal operations work and for law enforcement and other emergency actions. The remaining \$1,000,000 of the base funding is to help develop and implement the Headwaters Forest Coordinated Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement. A primary goal of the Plan is to restore the haul roads and skid trails that have significantly altered the natural flow of both surface and subsurface water. The additional \$50,000 above the base is being requested to expand projects that implement short- and long-term sediment pollution controls in critical spawning habitat for threatened coho and chinook salmon.

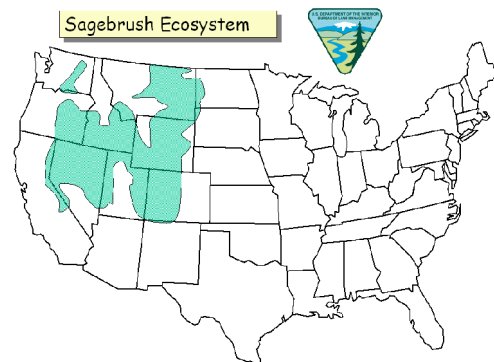
**Funding for Headwaters Forest, California**  
(funding levels are increases to base funds)

Subactivity	1999	2000	2001 Changes (+/-)
Soil, Water and Air	\$30,000		+\$50,000
Forest Management	\$30,000	\$1,000,000	
Wildlife Management	\$50,000		
Threatened and Endangered Species	\$40,000		
Annual Maintenance	\$50,000		
Administrative Support	\$50,000		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$250,000</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>+\$50,000</b>

- Funds are shown by fiscal year as cumulative totals from Congressional appropriations.

**Sagebrush and Prairie Grassland Ecosystems**

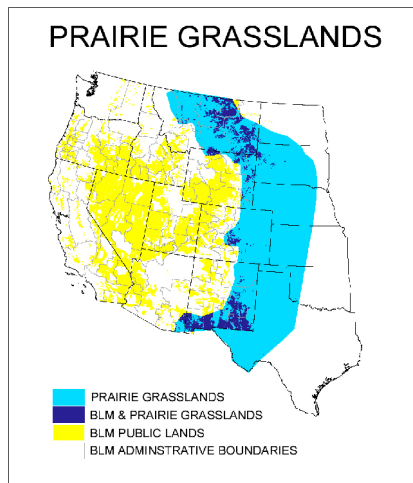
Much of the Nation's sagebrush ecosystem has been transformed to a landscape dominated by annual, non-endemic grasses and weeds. Over time, the landscape area dominated by sagebrush has been reduced more than 30 percent and severe wildfires consumed over 1.5 million acres of this dwindling habitat in 1999. More than 100 bird, 70 mammal, and 23 amphibian and reptile species depend on the recovery of the sagebrush ecosystem. More than 30 species are currently being considered for listing under the Federal Endangered Species Act.



The BLM is highlighting the sagebrush ecosystem as an area of special interest for restoration in FY 2001. The wildfires that occurred in the Great Basin in 1999 focused national attention on the need to develop long-term management strategies for this critical management area. Because restoration needs in the sagebrush ecosystem are estimated to be in the millions of dollars during the next five years, the BLM's FY 2001 request is a small start. The requested funding would be used to fund projects in critical management areas that re-establish native plant species and protect high quality habitat "islands" in wilderness areas, wilderness study areas, and other places to protect at-risk species from additional impacts. Funding from the Wildland Fire Account will also support these goals by funding fuels treatments designed to reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire and restore natural processes through judicious use of prescribed fire.



The short and mixed-grass prairie ecosystems once supported vast herds of bison and pronghorns. Millions of acres of native grasslands have been eliminated as a significant portion of the region has been converted to agricultural lands. The prairie is home to many unique wildlife species that are currently threatened with extinction or have declined in numbers dramatically over historic levels. Examples include the black-tailed prairie dog, black-footed ferret, the piping plover, Eskimo curlew and western prairie fringed orchid. The BLM is requesting additional funds in FY 2001 to implement projects to preserve this critical management area. Examples of these projects include: reclaiming native prairie in areas that were planted with nonnative grasses to stabilize soils; expanding control of noxious weeds such as leafy spurge and spotted knapweed; implementing conservation measures for off-road vehicle use; and, in a complementary effort funded by the Wildland Fire Account, re-introducing fire into the prairie ecosystem through



prescribed fire treatments.

If additional funding is not directed to these two critical management areas, conditions within the sagebrush and prairie grassland ecosystems will continue to decline, increasing the likelihood of additional threatened and endangered species listings. In the sagebrush ecosystem, increased numbers of wildfires, noxious weed expansion, and uncontrolled OHV use will continue to pose threats to at-risk plant and animal species. Additional listings in both habitat types will adversely affect both commercial and recreational uses of public land, with potential restrictions to livestock grazing, mineral leasing, recreational hunting and fishing, and other recreational use.

**Wild and Scenic Rivers (+\$1,100,000)** - The BLM manages twenty percent of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Unfortunately, a large existing backlog of management and restoration needs for these rivers remains unaddressed within current funding levels. To improve the protection and management of the outstandingly remarkable values of these rivers, the BLM is requesting additional funding in FY 2001 to accelerate stream cleanups, remove exotic and invasive plants and wildlife, re-establish native species, stabilize eroding stream banks, improve fish and wildlife habitat, and accommodate increasing recreation use. One area that would receive increased funding is the Gulkana National Wild and Scenic River in Alaska. Since designation in 1980, river corridor use has increased significantly. About 75 percent of the state's population (which includes expanding Anchorage and Fairbanks) is located within 250 miles of this river. During the king salmon run, residents from Fairbanks use this area as well as more and more people from Anchorage who are fleeing restricted or crowded fishing on rivers nearer to them. Conflicts between non-motorized versus motorized recreation use and commercial versus recreational use of the river are beginning to occur. Fish, wildlife and other river-related resources are being impacted by trampling and destruction of vegetation, unauthorized tree cutting, lack of sanitation facilities, and illegal/unauthorized uses. With additional funding, the BLM can improve visitor services and facilities along the river, increase on-the-ground patrols to deter damage, and implement restoration projects to repair damage in certain sensitive areas such as bald eagle habitat.

The requested increases are preliminary estimates based on current resource conditions and available data. Priorities and funding levels may be subject to change as data or resource conditions warrant.

**Project Summary Table,  
Public Land Treasures**  
(requested funding levels are increases to base)

(\$000s)

St	Area	Soil, Water, & Air	Rang e Mgt.	Ri- paria n Mgt.	Cultural Res. Mgt.	Wildlife Mgt.	Fish. Mgt.	T&E Species Mgt.	Wild. Mgt.	Rec. Mgt.	Haz- ard Mgt	Annual Maint.	Total (000s)
<b>National Conservation Areas</b>													
AK	Steese NCA	69		25	64	45	197			325			725
AZ	San Pedro NCA	97		135	94	118		100		294			838
AZ	Gila Box NCA	75		25	165	35	87	5		248			640
CA	CA Desert Mgrs. Group	120	90	90				200			100		600
CA	CA Desert Conserv. Area				196			26	155				377
CA	King Range NCA	100			230			25	30	493			878
CO	Gunnison Gorge NCA and Wilderness	20	20					40	20	200			300
ID	Birds of Prey NCA	167	13			30							210
NM	El Malpais NCA				250								250
NV	Red Rocks NCA									50			50
<b>Subtotal</b>		648	123	275	999	228	284	396	205	1,610	100	0	4,868
<b>National Monuments</b>													
AZ	Agua Fria NM	71	25	79	1,960	50	105	50		500			2,840
AZ	Grand Canyon-Parashant NM	86	187	25	686	418		100	100	506			2,108
CA	California Coastal NM					75	75			200			350
UT	Grand Staircase NM			71	250	64	34	41					460

St	Area	Soil, Water, & Air	Rang e Mgt.	Ri- paria n Mgt.	Cultural Res. Mgt.	Wildlife Mgt.	Fish. Mgt.	T&E Species Mgt.	Wild. Mgt.	Rec. Mgt.	Haz- ard Mgt	Annual Maint.	Total (000s)
	<b>Subtotal</b>	157	212	175	2,896	607	214	191	100	1,206	0	0	5,758
<b>National Historic Trails/Wild and Scenic Rivers</b>													
ID	Lewis & Clark NHT		60		60					210		170	500
MT	Lewis & Clark NHT				115			15	50	337		230	747
AK	Gulkana WSR					80		15		100			195
AK	Unalakleet WSR						100			50			150
AK	Delta WSR	50			60	40		10		100			260
OR	John Day WSR	75	20	70	20	20	70			100			375
OR	Owyhee WSR			20	45			35		20			120
	<b>Subtotal</b>	125	80	90	300	140	170	75	50	917	0	400	2,347
<b>Other Conservation Units</b>													
CA	Otay Mtn. Wilderness							150	50				200
CA	Headwaters Forest	50											50
Mtl.	Sagebrush/ Prairie Grassland Ecosystems	150						1,048	835	767			2,800
	<b>Subtotal</b>	200	0	0	0	0	0	1,198	885	767	0	0	3,050
	<b>Total</b>	1,130	415	540	4,195	975	668	1,860	1,240	4,500	100	400	16,023

**Restoration of Threatened Watersheds****GPRA Program Activities -  
Restore At-Risk and Maintain Functioning Ecosystems and  
Preserve Natural and Cultural Heritage Resources**

*The BLM is requesting \$14,000,000 to address watershed restoration by focusing on clean water initiatives, eradicating invasive plant species, and managing wild horses and burros. The requested increase in funding will allow the BLM to achieve its strategic goals of "Restoring At-Risk Ecosystems" by implementing water quality improvement prescriptions and preventing the spread of noxious weeds and "Preserve Natural and Cultural Heritage Resources" by reaching appropriate management levels of wild horses and burros in herd management areas.*

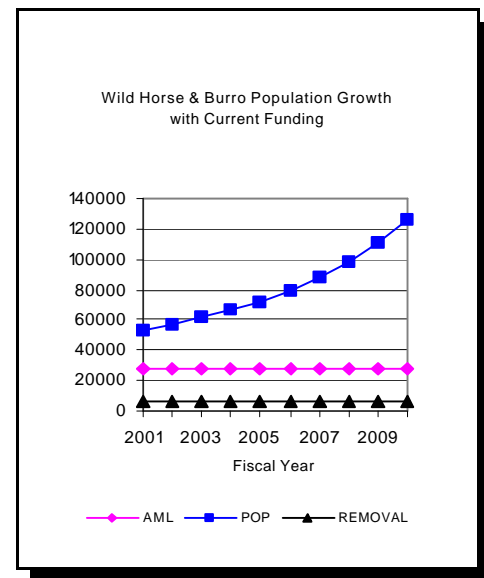
**Background**

Clean water and healthy watersheds form the basis of resilient ecosystems, benefitting not only public land values and uses, but adjacent communities, effectively improving the quality of life for the people who reside there. For decades the BLM has been concerned with healthy, proper functioning watersheds and has integrated watershed management with other programs and uses on public lands, restoring the health of many watersheds suffering degradation. The agency is particularly well positioned to make significant national contributions to: 1) clean water and healthy watersheds; 2) biological diversity; and 3) the protection of critical habitat for a variety of plant and animal species. The BLM manages far more land in "Category 1" watersheds (those defined by State and Tribes as priority areas) than any other Interior agency. Public lands (where ownership is 15%) play a critical role in more than one-third of all the administratively determined "Category 1" watersheds in the west. The need to proactively address water quality and other resource issues is rapidly increasing. To deal with water quality issues, increased funding is targeted for: 1) pursuit of appropriate management levels (AML) for wild horse and burro populations on the public lands; 2) integrated weed management; and 3) Restoration of watersheds and water quality improvement.

It is imperative that BLM address watershed restoration needs now, while recovery is still possible and before at-risk and degraded watersheds deteriorate (i.e., conversion of perennial water to ephemeral flows, loss of soil productivity, lack of vegetation diversity, and establishment of invasive weed species) to a condition where they are unable to respond to management actions. Substantial resource investment is required if BLM is to stop the landscape scale changes now underway on public lands in the West. If this proposal is not funded, resource conditions will continue to deteriorate at faster and faster rates in threatened watersheds. Combined with risks due to catastrophic wildfires and expansion of weed infestations, these conditions will result in a permanent loss of habitat and decline of dependent populations of plants and animals, many of which are already considered sensitive. The number of plants and animals added to the list of threatened and endangered species will continue to increase, and recovery options for these species would either be lost or much more difficult and expensive to achieve. The consequences of not devoting more resources to continuing and emerging issues

are exemplified in the Southwest where scarce, core BLM technical expertise is diverted from tangible resource management to responding to litigation, compliance with settlement agreements, and conducting monitoring and assessment work mandated in biological opinions.

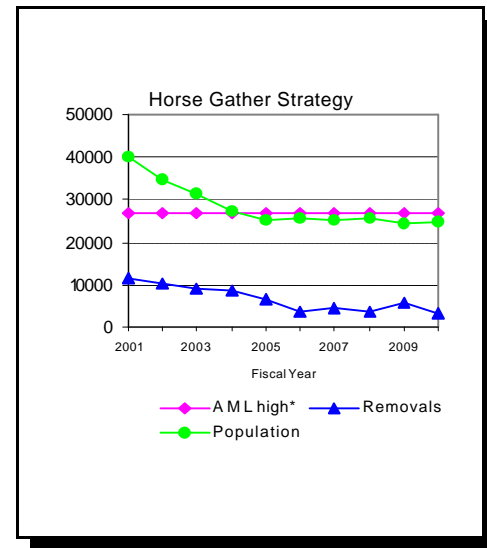
**Wild Horse and Burros** - One of the biggest threats to watershed health and dependent resources occurs when wild horse and burro populations exceed the capacity of the land. The Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act (Act) directs the BLM to remove excess animals when their number exceeds AML within Herd Management Areas (HMA). Typical wild horse and burro populations increase at a rate of 18% to 20% per year. This rate is substantially greater than that of other wild animals because wild horses and burros lack natural predators of significance. Currently, the only approved tool for bringing populations to AML is through physical removal from HMAs. Animals removed are offered to the public through the Adopt-A-Horse and Burro program. For the last several years, the Adoption program has been out paced by the annual reproductive increases from the wild horse populations, resulting in a growing number of wild horses on the public lands.



The BLM currently projects that the 2000 year end population for wild horses and burros will be approximately 50,631 animals, 23,252 animals above the AML of 27,379 animals. Approximately 159 of the BLM's 192 HMAs are over AML, some substantially. For example, the Calico Mountain Complex in Nevada is 239% of AML. The rate of population growth noted earlier equates to a recruitment of approximately 9,475 new animals this year. Current annual funding levels provide for the removal and adoption of approximately 6,000 animals. Based on this recruitment and removal rate, the BLM projects that wild horse and burro populations on the public lands will continue to increase from the current level to approximately 126,380 animals in 10 years (see Chart 1) which is 462% above AML. If this scenario is allowed to materialize, public lands would suffer extreme resource degradation.

With current funding, the BLM is unable to remove sufficient animals to make progress toward AML or even maintain a static population. Though fertility control research is promising, a long-term vaccine has not yet been developed nor approved for widespread application. We anticipate that the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) will not approve a vaccine for at least 6 years, delaying widespread application until that time. It should be noted, however, that fertility control is a mechanism for slowing the rate of recruitment, not a tool for reducing current populations. If the Bureau fails to address overpopulation and associated impacts very soon, affected interest groups may pursue litigation to force the agency to remove excess animals in conflict areas. If this were to occur, the courts could potentially direct the BLM's budget, affecting not only Wild Horse and Burro funding, but that of other programs as well.

Reducing the number of wild horses and burros to AML on BLM administered lands remains the most critical need of the program. Numerous options have been considered for bringing the wild horse and burro populations down to AML. The strategy chosen for wild horses defines a removal plan that would achieve AML on all HMAs in four years (see Chart 2). To accomplish this, all of the HMAs would be placed on a four year gather schedule starting in FY 2001. When a gather is initiated on an HMA, sufficient excess animals would be removed to bring the population to AML. The plan requires removing all age classes of wild horses including older, unadoptable animals. In addition, the BLM is committed to removing 1,200 burros each year, matching current and expected adoption demand and resulting in all burro HMAs reaching AML concurrent with wild horses.



With the removal of older wild horses, the BLM will implement techniques enhancing the desirability of these older animals for adoption (i.e. gentling, training, gelding) or, in the case of the oldest and least adoptable, placing them in long-term care and holding.

Implementation of this strategy requires a funding increase of \$9,000,000 over current levels, and that funding increase will likely have to be sustained in future years. If the Bureau is able to follow this strategy, by FY 2006, funding levels would drop to current levels (adjusted for inflation), and by FY 2010 funding needs would be below the equivalent of current funding. This strategy requires an initial increase in the number of animals removed from 6,000 to 12,855. Removal numbers would significantly drop to approximately 4,500 animals in year six. This dramatic decrease in removals will create a significant cost savings to the program. A portion of the cost savings will be used to fund enhancement efforts for adopting older wild horses and for covering the long-term holding costs of the unadoptable animals.

This strategy, if fully implemented, will accomplish the goal of reaching AML and will ensure healthy, viable herds on all HMAs, satisfying the objective for achieving a thriving natural ecological balance on the public lands. Successful culmination of this strategy will create a stable equilibrium requiring the capture and removal of fewer animals annually. This translates into less frequent gathers and fewer animals being brought into the adoption system. Full commitment to this strategy will balance the wild horse and burro populations with the capability of the land, allowing restoration activities to heal watersheds that are in less than desirable conditions.

**Integrated Invasive Weed Management** - The prolific spread of invasive weeds is causing the greatest, most rapidly accelerating adverse impact to the long-term health of the public lands today. Infestations are dramatically reducing the productivity and biodiversity of the public lands, and thus their value for wildlife, recreation, and commercial uses. These infestations are also increasing the predicament for threatened and endangered species and the likelihood that additional species will warrant listing. Currently more than 11 million acres or 5 percent of BLM administered public lands are infested with noxious weeds. It is estimated that weeds are

spreading on these lands at more than 2,300 acres per day. These statistics are ominous considering the ramifications, yet there is reason for optimism since only a small percentage of the public lands are infested at this time.

The BLM has been building a very successful integrated weed management program by focusing on cooperative partnerships at the local and community level. Emphasis has been on early detection through inventory and monitoring efforts, followed by immediate control of infestations, without regard to jurisdictional boundaries, so that whole weed infestations are treated. Current efforts are reducing the "net" rate of spread. The requested increase in funding of \$1,500,000 would allow the BLM to begin work with other cooperators or to expand existing partnerships to narrow the remaining gap. Funds will be focused on priority watersheds to get the most effective results.

An example of an aggressive eradication effort would be the Southern Nevada Riparian Restoration proposal, focusing on the salt cedar (tamarisk) invasions of tributaries in the lower Colorado River Basin. Salt Cedar displaces native riparian vegetation which is critical habitat for the Southwest Willow Flycatcher, a listed species. In addition, salt cedar translocates salts in the subsurface soils to the surface, which effects native plant survival, reducing plant biodiversity and ground cover, in turn causing accelerated erosion and salt loading to the Colorado River system. Salt cedar also consumes large quantities of ground water causing decreases of surface and subsurface flows along streams. The proposal is to approach eradication of salt cedar and native plant restoration from a watershed basis. The Bureau's efforts would integrate resource objectives, particularly the recovery of listed and sensitive species, including the Flycatcher, Moapa Dace, Virgin River spinedace, White River springfish, Hiko White River springfish, Pahrangat roundtail chub, White River desert sucker, Meadow Valley Wash desert sucker, and Virgin River chub. Eradication of salt cedar and restoration of native riparian vegetation would provide for increased flows of water, furnishing critical habitat for these species as well as improved water quality for wildlife, recreation (Lake Mead) and the communities dependent on the Colorado River as a water supply.

***Funding for Integrated Weed Management,  
within the Rangeland Management Subactivity  
(funding levels are increases to base funds)***

Subactivity	1997	1998	1999	2000*	2001 Changes (+/-)
Rangeland Management	\$2,200,000	\$3,200,000	\$3,200,000	\$6,700,000	+\$1,500,000

\* Does not include \$750,000 appropriated in FY 2000 and earmarked for the State of Idaho Department of Agriculture.

- Funds are shown by fiscal year as cumulative totals from Congressional appropriations.

**Clean Water and Watershed Restoration** - Healthy watersheds form the foundation for essentially all of the resources and public land uses which the BLM manages. Accordingly, the BLM has integrated healthy watersheds and clean water into its programs for many years. Since the Clean Water Action Plan (CWAP) was released in 1998, the effort has been embraced by the BLM to emphasize and expand its current endeavors progressing from planning to project

implementation. The additional funding request of \$3,500,000 would be focused in priority watersheds that pose the greatest threat to multiple resource values, including impaired waters, sensitive species, and riparian values, and involving cooperative partnerships that are both established and developing that contribute to both funding and on-the-ground actions.

The additional funding for watershed restoration (and for weed management) will be targeted heavily to the Great Basin and the Colorado River Basin. The Great Basin is a unique, semi-arid region characterized by sagebrush and grassland habitats, high elevation forests, and scattered wetlands and riparian corridors. The Great Basin was selected because of the growing threat from loss of soil, vegetation community productivity and the associated potential for catastrophic wildfires, as demonstrated during the summer of 1999, when over 1.5 million acres of BLM land burned. The states of the Great Basin have developed an initiative to address the rapidly expanding change from natural, biologically-diverse plant communities to monotypic vegetation regimes predominately comprised of non-native invasive annual grasses. These invasions are due to historic livestock practices, land disturbances associated with historic mining and the acceleration of fire occurrence. As these exotic annual grasses become established, they create conditions where lightning and man-caused fires ignite easily, rapidly grow in size, and consume far greater acreage than typically encountered in native vegetation. As the fires grow larger and faster, they in turn, expand into native vegetation, which allows further expansion of the annual grasses, causing this cycle to exponentially compound itself. As native vegetation communities diminish, watershed conditions are degraded and habitats are unable to support wildlife, wild horses and livestock grazing. Activities proposed with the additional funding include over 16,000 acres of annual grass treatments and follow-up native plant seedings to protect existing native vegetation and to break up the annual grass monocultures, therefore reducing the size of future fires. In addition, over 30 projects are proposed, designed to allow changes in current livestock grazing management practices and protection of important riparian habitat, all of which will comprehensively improve the overall health of priority watersheds. Restoration actions designed to return natural conditions are imperative to keep noxious weeds and other invasive plants from dominating disturbed areas. Restoration work must go beyond burned areas however, and include unburned areas that are especially vulnerable to fire and areas with a high potential to attain proper functioning conditions. The goal is to promote plant community diversity and structure that is more resilient to disturbance and invasion of non-native, invasive plant species over the long-term. No less than the natural and economic health of the Great Basin is at stake.

The Colorado River Basin, which drains one-twelfth of the arid southwest, is the second area of focus. The BLM administers 40 percent of the Basin, which includes 8,000 miles of streams and rivers that supply water to nearly 25 million people across a diverse landscape undergoing rapid population growth. The Basin has undergone extensive mining, oil and gas development, and invasion of exotic plant species. Resources at risk include surface and ground water quality; threatened and endangered species; degraded riparian/wetland and fish habitat; and accelerated soil losses. The FY 2001 budget request includes a proposal within the Gunnison River watershed for sagebrush/steppe restoration. The goal of the initiative is to restore the sagebrush steppe ecosystem in order to bring the uplands, riparian areas and stream systems to proper functioning conditions resulting in biologically diverse vegetation communities and sustained native animal populations. Another area of emphasis within the Colorado River Basin is the fragile Southwest Desert. This is an area with numerous Special Status Species requiring innovative restoration solutions. It is critical that public lands across this huge watershed be restored because of the tremendous ecological components it contains, and the high number



of communities that depend upon the water it supplies.

Portions of both these targeted areas have been degraded by historic overuse. Over 1,000 miles of riparian habitat are classified as functioning-at-risk in these areas. Without modifying management and/or restoration efforts, these functioning-at-risk streams could degrade, compromising desired native vegetation components, streambank soil stability, water quality, and wildlife and fisheries habitat. The same vulnerability exists for uplands which have faced significant declines in native vegetation components, particularly grasses, limiting the ability of these areas to function. The loss of sagebrush and bunch grass in the Great Basin and portions of the Colorado River Basin serve as a dramatic example of how altered vegetation can affect overall watershed health and dependent animals species such as sage grouse. The sage grouse has been petitioned for possible listing, and because of the wide ranging nature of the habitat for this species, formal listing will have substantial impacts to public land uses, such as livestock grazing, mining, recreation, and wild horse and burro management.

It is critical that watersheds in these targeted ecoregions be restored because of the tremendous ecological values they contain. Each year that the BLM is unable to apply necessary modifications to management or undertake necessary restoration actions greatly extends the recovery time for degraded watersheds and may even jeopardize the possibility of successful restoration.

***Funding for Clean Water and Watershed Restoration,  
Implementation of the Clean Water Action Plan  
(funding levels are increases to base funds)***

Subactivity	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 Changes (+/-)
Soil, Water & Air Management	\$1,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$10,350,000	\$10,400,000	+\$1,734,000
Rangeland Management			\$500,000	\$500,000	+\$268,000
Riparian Management			\$3,500,000	\$4,500,000	+\$988,000
Wildlife Management					+\$190,000
Fisheries Management			\$1,500,000	\$2,650,000	+\$110,000
Threatened and Endangered Species					+\$210,000
Western Oregon, Other Forest Resources Management			\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$3,000,000</b>	<b>\$16,850,000</b>	<b>\$19,050,000</b>	<b>+\$3,500,000</b>

- Funds are shown by fiscal year as cumulative totals from Congressional appropriations.
- Requested increases are preliminary estimates; priorities and funding levels could change at a later date.

Requested increases are preliminary estimates based on current resource conditions and available data. Priorities and funding levels may be subject to change as data or resource conditions warrant.

**Project Summary Table,  
Restoration of Threatened Watersheds  
(requested funding levels are increases to base)**

(\$000s)

State	Project	Soil, Water & Air	Range Mgt.	Riparian Mgt.	WH&B Mgt.	Wildlife Mgt.	Fisheries Mgt.	T&E Species	Total
AZ	Upper Gila/San Simon Watershed Restoration	50	100	30			40	25	245
CA	South Fork Eel River Basin Watershed Restoration	75	24	68			60		227
CA	Northeast California/Northwest Nevada Sagebrush Steppe/Sage Grouse Recovery	220	159						379
CO	Upper Gunnison River Watershed/Sagebrush Steppe Restoration	100	30	30		30	10		200
ID	Lemhi River Subbasin Restoration			375					375
NM	Southern New Mexico Watershed Restoration	125	30	85					240
NV	Southern Nevada Riparian Restoration	85	355					40	480
NV	Nevada Great Basin Restoration	1,054	970	320		120		120	2,584
UT	Western Utah Sagebrush/Sage Grouse Restoration	25	100	80		40		25	270
Multiple	Wild Horse and Burro Strategy				9,000				9,000
<b>Total</b>		1,734	1,768	988	9,000	190	110	210	14,000

**Safe Visits to Public Lands*****GPRA Program Activity - Reduce Threats to Public Health Safety and Property***

*The BLM requests \$3,000,000 to improve its existing recreation facilities and to make the most pressing repairs to its roads and trails system. The increase in funding will allow the BLM to achieve its strategic goal of "Reducing Threats to Public Health Safety and Property" by increasing the percentage of BLM facilities, roads and trails maintained in a fair or good condition.*

***Background***

The BLM 2001 Budget Request includes an increase of \$3,000,000 to support Safe Visits to public lands. Of this amount \$1,550,000 will be used to initiate an urgently needed road maintenance assessment across the BLM land base, \$1,000,000 will be used to reduce critical deferred maintenance needs, and \$450,000 will be used to improve road drainage on Oregon and California Grant Land roads where sediment runoff from roads is adversely affecting water quality and fisheries habitat. The BLM manages an extensive network of roads that provide access to millions of acres of public land resources. In order to help the public enjoy these resources, the BLM has built numerous administrative and recreation support facilities and maintains approximately 88,000 miles of road and 3,590 miles of trails. In part, increased funding is urgently needed for analysis of the current and potential uses at existing facilities and to better understand the annual and corrective maintenance needs. This information is critical to BLM's ability to provide safe, environmentally sound roads and facilities needed to meet a wide variety of customer demands.

In 1999, the Department began the Safe Visits Initiative to improve the condition and functionality of its facilities. Building on accomplishments in FY 1999 and FY 2000, the BLM has developed a Bureau-wide Five-Year Deferred Maintenance/Capital Improvement Plan as an important step in improving the condition of its facilities. The concept behind the Five-Year Plan is to better enable planning for and management of the Bureau's highest priority maintenance needs. Projects in the Five-Year Plan are ranked in accordance with established criteria, with highest emphasis applied to deferred maintenance associated with critical health and safety and critical environmental resource protection needs.

The BLM must understand the scope of deferred maintenance in order to monitor the progress being made in reducing the accumulated maintenance backlog. In order to accomplish this BLM has completed condition assessment updates on all administrative and recreation sites, all qualifying hazardous dams and all bridges. In FY 2000, BLM will conduct condition assessments on a statistically significant sample of its roads and trails in order to estimate their deferred maintenance backlog. Based on these results and a bureauwide re-engineering study also being conducted in FY 2000, BLM will initiate the first of a three year effort to update their transportation needs to meet the management challenges that lie ahead.

The FY 2001 Bureau construction and Department Wildland Fire construction project descriptions are included in the respective Construction and Wildland Fire Appropriations. The FY 2002 through FY 2005 fire and construction project lists are included in a companion document. The companion document also includes the deferred maintenance project lists for FY 2001 through FY 2005 for all BLM administered lands. Annual modification to these lists will occur as BLM refines condition assessments and updates project cost estimates. Additional projects will be added to the five-year plan as lands with existing facilities are acquired or as changes in use pattern or weather conditions change the condition of the facilities or the public health and safety hazards associated with them.

**Project Summary Table,  
Safe Visits**  
(requested funding levels are increases to base)

(\$000s)

State	Activity/ Subactivity	Project Name	Total
ID	MLR, Deferred Maintenance	Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Improvement Facility & Infrastructure Maintenance	\$228
ID	MLR, Deferred Maintenance	Jump Creek Recreation Site Bridge	\$170
AZ	MLR, Deferred Maintenance	Fairbank Mercantile Building Stabilization	\$330
OR	MLR, Deferred Maintenance	Aggregate Replacement - Auburn/Burnt River	\$6
CA	MLR, Deferred Maintenance	Reilly Townsite	\$57
OR	MLR, Deferred Maintenance	Aggregate Replacement - Oregon Trail Interpretive Center	\$8
AZ	MLR, Deferred Maintenance	Parker Strip Vault Toilet	\$160
AZ	MLR, Deferred Maintenance	Empire Ranch Tack & Shop Building Restoration	\$30
NV	MLR, Deferred Maintenance	Repair Modular Foundation	\$11
OR/ O&C	O&C, Annual Maintenance	Road Maintenance in western Oregon	\$450
ALL	MLR, Annual Maintenance	Road Condition Assessments	\$1,550
<b>Total, BLM Safe Visits</b>			<b>\$3,000</b>

**Other Budget Increases**

The BLM's FY 2001 budget request also includes increases to address issues in the following areas:

- C **Oregon & California Grant Lands** - the BLM requests an additional \$3,000,000 to address broad-scale regional surveys and project specific surveys for special status species in order to assure that the BLM offers for sale its allowable sale quantity of timber of 211 MMBF in future years.
- C **Construction** - the BLM requests additional funding in Construction in order to address 8 individual construction projects of which 7 are focused on re-construction and repair of existing facilities where critical health and safety situations exist, and one new construction project, the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Science Center.
- C **Payments in Lieu of Taxes** - an additional \$615,000 in PILT funding is requested.
- C **Land Acquisition** - the requested increase in funding of \$44,900,000 will be used to acquire lands involving 24 projects and nearly 186,000 acres. An additional \$500,000 will be used to acquire valuable properties that come available upon short notice.
- C **Central Hazardous Materials Fund** - the BLM requests an additional \$45,000 in funding to increase the Department's pursuit of potentially responsible parties and to develop and implement required Cost Recovery Plans at contaminated sites.

## Summary Tables of Program Changes

**Management of Lands and Resources**

Activity/ Subactivity	Program Changes (\$000's)	Description of Change
<b>MLR Activity - Land Resources</b>		
<b>Soil, Water &amp; Air</b>	+\$4,954	(+\$2,000, Land Use Planning for Sustainable Resource Decisions) - Incorporate new Clean Water and Clean Air standards into Land Use Plans. (+\$90, Public Pressures on Public Lands) - Conduct a watershed assessment on an area of high public use in the Colorado River corridor. (+\$1,734, Restoration of Threatened Watersheds) - Identify degraded watershed conditions, plan for needed management changes, and implement restoration projects and treatments in priority watersheds. (+\$1,130, Public Land Treasures) - Assess existing uses in designated areas for impacts to watershed health and develop and implement restoration actions.
<b>Range Management</b>	+\$4,333	(+\$2,150, Land Use Planning for Sustainable Resource Decisions) - Incorporate rangeland health standards and implementation of these standards into applicable Land Use Plans and environmental documents. (+\$1,768, Restoration of Threatened Watersheds) - Modify management practices improve watershed health (+\$268). Expand efforts to identify and aggressively treat noxious weed and non-native invasive plants (+\$1,500). (+\$415, Public Land Treasures) - Evaluate existing uses in designated areas for impacts to rangeland health and implement management changes.
<b>Riparian Management</b>	+\$1,528	(+\$988, Restoration of Threatened Watersheds) - Identify riparian/wetland areas at-risk, plan for needed management changes, and implement restoration projects and treatments within priority watersheds. (+\$540, Public Land Treasures) - Assess existing uses in designated areas for impacts to riparian/wetland health to develop and implement restoration actions.
<b>Cultural Resources</b>	+\$4,265	(+\$70, Public Pressures on Public Lands) - Develop management plan and improve monitoring to increase protection of cultural and historic resources in regions in the West experiencing high growth. (+\$4,195, Public Land Treasures) - Initiate thirty different cultural heritage projects on public lands, including providing visitor services, increasing law enforcement to prevent looting, and managing and stabilizing sites.
<b>Wild Horse and Burros</b>	+\$9,000	(+\$9,000, Restoration of Threatened Watersheds) - Additional funding will be used to implement a comprehensive strategy for reaching Appropriate Management Levels on all Herd Management Areas by year end 2004.
<b>Subtotal, Land Resources, +\$24,080</b>		

MLR Activity - Wildlife and Fisheries		
Wildlife Management	+\$2,165	(+\$1,000, Land Use Planning for Sustainable Resource Decisions) - Update land use plans to address declining species and wildlife needs. (+\$190, Restoration of Threatened Watersheds) - In sagebrush ecosystems, identify habitat loss, inventory species and habitats, and apply restoration treatments. (+\$975, Public Land Treasures) - Conserve wildlife species in unique habitats through inventory, evaluation, and restoration.
Fisheries Management	+\$1,178	(+\$400, Land Use Planning for Sustainable Resource Decisions) - Update land use plans to address declining species and fishery needs. (+\$110, Restoration of Threatened Watersheds) - Revegetate streambanks and reduce sedimentation, salt loads, and water temperature to improve water quality for fisheries. (+\$668, Public Land Treasures) - Conserve fisheries species in unique habitats through inventory, evaluation, and restoration.
Subtotal, Wildlife and Fisheries, +\$3,343		
MLR Activity - Threatened and Endangered Species		
Threatened and Endangered Species	+\$4,320	(+\$2,200, Land Use Planning for Sustainable Resource Decisions) - Update land use plans to address threatened and endangered species and incorporate standards. (+\$50, Public Pressures on Public Lands) - Address the adverse impacts to threatened and endangered species from rapid population growth adjacent to public lands in the west. (+\$210, Restoration of Threatened Watersheds) - Re-establish streambank vegetation for threatened and endangered (T&E) riparian birds and to improve water for T&E fisheries. Restore uplands for declining species. (+\$1,860, Public Land Treasures) - Conserve threatened and endangered species and unique ecosystems through inventory, evaluation, and restoration.
Subtotal, Threatened and Endangered Species, +\$4,320		
MLR Activity - Recreation Management		
Wilderness Management	+\$2,590	(+\$1,350, Land Use Planning for Sustainable Resource Decisions) - Initiate planning efforts to address wilderness study uses and determine how these lands will be managed in the long term. (+\$1,240, Public Land Treasures) - Complete Wilderness and Wilderness Study Area projects in special areas including the National Monuments. Emphasis will be on projects within the Sagebrush and Shortgrass Prairie Ecosystems.
Recreation Resource Management	+\$7,290	(+\$2,400, Land Use Planning for Sustainable Resource Decisions) - Funding will ensure proper designations and management of Off-Highway-Vehicle use by priority areas. (+\$390, Public Pressures on Public Lands) - Funding will improve recreational opportunities in high use area surrounding local communities. (+\$4,500, Public Land Treasures) - Funding is provided to manage the Public Land Treasures which include improving the scientific information, visitor services, and environmental protection on Monuments, National Conservation Areas, Historic Trails, Wilderness Areas, and Wild and Scenic Rivers

<b>Subtotal, Recreation Management, +\$9,880</b>		
<b>MLR Activity - Energy and Minerals</b>		
<b>Oil and Gas</b>	<b>+\$2,800</b>	(Land Use Planning for Sustainable Resource Decisions) - Complete the necessary NEPA and planning re-analysis in order to assure that BLM's land use plans are up to date as they relate to oil and gas leasing and development.
<b>Coal Management</b>	<b>+\$700</b>	(Land Use Planning for Sustainable Resource Decisions) - Complete the necessary NEPA and planning re-analysis in order to assure that BLM's land use plans are up to date as they relate to coal leasing and development.
<b>Subtotal, Energy and Minerals, +3,500</b>		
<b>MLR Activity - Realty and Ownership Management</b>		
<b>Lands and Realty Management</b>	<b>+\$145</b>	(+\$145, Public Pressures on Public Lands) - The requested increase will be used to address BLM's increasing backlog of right-of-way and R&PP permits in three priority areas.
<b>Subtotal, Realty and Ownership Management, +\$145</b>		
<b>MLR Activity - Resource Protection and Maintenance</b>		
<b>Resource Management Planning</b>	<b>+\$4,000</b>	(+\$4,000, Land Use Planning for Sustainable Resource Decisions) - The requested increase will be used to expedite actions necessary to correct deficiencies in the BLM's land use plans for priority areas where critical resources are at risk.
<b>Resource Protection and Law Enforcement</b>	<b>+\$130</b>	(+\$130, Public Pressures on Public Lands) - The requested increase will be used to address the adverse results of rapid population growth in the west adjacent to public lands. Focus will be on such problems as dumping, trespass, theft of resources, illegal drug trafficking and manufacturing, and OHV violations.
<b>Hazard Management and Resource Restoration</b>	<b>+\$100</b>	(+\$35, Public Pressures on Public Lands) - Clean up five illegal dumps containing hazardous materials, toxic materials, and garbage on public lands in the high growth areas around Las Vegas and Los Angeles. (+\$130, Public Land Treasures) - Clean up hazardous materials at abandoned mines and illegal trash dumps in two specific geographic regions - Colorado River Corridor and Central Oregon.
<b>Subtotal, Resource Protection and Maintenance, +\$4,265</b>		
<b>MLR Activity - Facilities Maintenance</b>		
<b>Annual Maintenance</b>	<b>+\$2,040</b>	(+\$90, Public Pressures on Public Lands) - Additional maintenance work will be performed near a few communities in the West where population growth has expanded beyond existing capabilities. (+\$400, Public Land Treasures) - The request will improve facility conditions at recreation and historic sites, in Montana and Idaho, in preparation for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial. (+\$1,550, Safe Visits) - Implementing the Department's Safe Visits to Public Lands initiative will provide additional capabilities to address transportation maintenance assessments.
<b>Deferred Maintenance</b>	<b>+\$1,000</b>	(Safe Visits) - The request will fund critical health and safety deferred maintenance needs.



<b>Subtotal, Facilities Maintenance, +\$3,040</b>		
<b>Total, Program Increases, MLR</b>	<b>+\$52,573</b>	These program increases, when added to the uncontrollable changes of \$18,484, account for a net increase of \$71,057 over the FY 2000 enacted level of funding.

**Oregon and California Grant Lands**

Activity/ Subactivity	Program Changes (\$000's)	Description of Change
<b>O&amp;C Activity - Western Oregon Facilities Maintenance</b>		
<b>Annual Maintenance</b>	<b>+\$450</b>	(Safe Visits) - Additional funding will be used to address priority maintenance , rehabilitation and construction needs on roads in western Oregon to support coastal salmon restoration.
<b>Subtotal, Facilities, +\$450</b>		
<b>O&amp;C Activity - Western Oregon Resources Management</b>		
<b>Other Forest Resources Management</b>	<b>+\$3,000</b>	The requested increase will be used to expedite survey and manage requirements allowing the BLM to remain committed to offering the full ASQ of timber of 211 MMBF in future years.
<b>Subtotal, Other Forest Resources Management, +\$3,000</b>		
<b>Total, Program Increases, O&amp;C</b>	<b>+\$3,450</b>	These program increases, when added to the uncontrollable changes of \$2,042 account for a net increase of \$5,492 over the FY 2000 enacted level of funding.

**Other Current Appropriations**

Activity/ Subactivity	Program Changes (\$000's)	Description of Change
<b>Appropriation - Construction</b>		
<b>Construction</b>	<b>+\$4</b>	(Safe Visits) - The funding request for construction will accomplish 7 critical health and safety issues and the construction of the Science Center, in Escalante Utah for the Grand Staircase National Monument.
<b>Total, Construction, +\$4</b>		
<b>Appropriation - Central HAZMAT</b>		
<b>Central HAZMAT</b>	<b>+\$45</b>	Increases the Department's pursuit of potentially responsible parties and to develop and implement required Cost Recovery Plans at contaminated sites.
<b>Total, Central HAZMAT, +\$45</b>		
<b>Appropriation - Land Acquisition</b>		

Land Acquisition	+\$45,400	(\$44,900) - The requested increase will be used to acquire lands for a total of 24 projects involving nearly 186,00 acres. (\$500) - These funds would be used to acquire properties that come available upon short notice
Total, Land Acquisition, +\$45,400		
Appropriation - Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT)		
PILT	+\$615	Returns funding for PILT to the FY 2000 requested amount.
Total, PILT, +\$615		
Total, Program Increase, Other Appropriations, +\$46,064		

### **Congressional Directives**

**BLM/Forest Service Integration of Watersheds and Community Needs** - The BLM is currently collecting information and establishing contacts with the U.S. Forest Service to assist in completion of the report to Congress. Factors being considered include: the BLM's training capability in community-based planning; key actions under the Clean Water Action Plan providing public/private partnership opportunities to restore watershed health; promoting sustainability of local communities and year-around employment; and participation by local people who live and work in the watersheds. Completion of the report is expected by the required deadline, 180 days from enactment of the Appropriations Act.

**Battelle Pacific Northwest National Laboratory** - BLM is collecting information concerning the regional watershed improvement efforts and the associated data management. During preparation of the report, the BLM plans to consider the effects of the Clean Water Action Plan, Key Action items in order to ensure that coordination occurs with watershed assessment and analysis procedures, specific direction under the proposed Unified Federal Policy for Watershed Management, and FY 2000 development of methods under the auspices of the National Water Quality Monitoring Council. The BLM is also evaluating the soil, vegetation, fish, wildlife, riparian and water quality protection data management needs in relationship to ongoing BLM data architecture studies. Completion of the report is expected by the end of Fiscal Year 2000.

**Ft. Wainwright Firefighter Barracks** - The BLM met with with Lt. Col. John Curry (Post Commander, Ft Wainwright) and with Major General Cash (USARAK Commander) and agreed that the existing barracks need to be replaced and that the BLM and the Department of the Army should work together to replace them. The report, required by directives contained in the FY 2000 appropriations report describing the need for the facility and the estimated cost, has been produced and will soon be forwarded to Congress.

**Grazing Program for Fort Stanton ACEC** - The BLM is working with the New Mexico BLM State Office and Roswell Field Office to prepare the requested report concerning the intentions for management of the Ft. Stanton Area of Environmental Concern, in particular for livestock grazing and wildlife research. The Taylor Grazing Act and other applicable laws are being reviewed, as well as the Resource Management Plan and other plans covering the area. Completion of the report is expected by the end of Fiscal Year 2000.

**Management of Organ Mountains and Related Areas** - The BLM Washington Office is working with the New Mexico State Office and Las Cruces Field Office to prepare the requested report concerning the analysis of the Organ Mountain management situation. The Organ Mountain Coordinated Resource Management Plan and the Mimbres Resource Management Plan guide existing management activities in the Organ Mountains. BLM is currently evaluating these plans and its management programs and will complete a report of its needs for Organ Mountains within the requested timeframe.

**Patent Application Processing Schedule** - The backlog of "grandfathered" patent applications is to be completed by FY 2001. The BLM's plan is to complete all outstanding mineral examinations and forward all applications that are not contested to the Secretary by the end of

FY 2000. As of December 31, 1999 BLM had 289 pending “grandfathered” applications still to be forwarded to the Secretary, involving 4,407 claims. Annually, BLM submits a status report, including our schedule for completion of processing the “grandfathered” applications, to Congress; our last report was September, 1999.

**Youth Conservation Corps** - As requested by the Congress in Section 351(b) of P.L. 106-113, the Department of the Interior will submit a report on its YCC and other related youth programs by May 29, 2000. The report, which will be prepared as a joint effort with the Department of Agriculture, will address the items specifically identified by the Congress.

**Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project** - A required report to the Congress is underway. To avoid delays in issuance of the Final EIS and record of decision and streamline the public involvement process, the Project plans to release the Supplemental Draft EIS and the Report to the Congress concurrently to alleviate separate, or consecutive public comment periods. The report will follow the same outline as Section 323 P.L. 105-83.

**BLM Planning and NEPA Review** - The House Report on the 2000 DOI Appropriations Bill requested the Bureau to submit the results of its ongoing analysis and review into the required level of land use planning and NEPA review actions the Bureau will have to undertake in order to correct identified deficiencies in these areas. This report is complete and is included with this document.

### SUMMARY OF BUREAU APPROPRIATIONS (\$000s)

Appropriations		1999 Actual	2000 Enacted to Date	2001 Budget Requests	Change from 2000 Amount
<b>Current:</b>					
Management of Lands and Resources	\$	612,511	646,218	715,191	+68,973
Y2K - Reimbursement [non-add]	\$	[11,999]	0	0	0
Reduction pursuant to P. L. 106-51	\$	-1,244	0	0	0
Reduction pursuant to P. L. 106-113	\$	0	-3,113	0	+3,113
Transferred in from USGS	\$	0	1,029	0	-1,029
Transferred in from OST	\$	250	0	0	0
Current	FTE	5,926	5,954	6,197	+243
Mining Law Administration	FTE	397	397	397	0
MLR Reimbursable	FTE	112	112	112	0
Wildland Fire Management	\$	286,895	292,282	297,197	+4,915
Emergency Supplemental Appropriation	\$	50,000	0	0	0
Emergency Supplemental Appropriation - Proposed Legislation [non-add]	\$	0	[+100,000]	0	[-100,000]
Reduction pursuant to P. L. 106-51	\$	-165	0	0	0
Reduction pursuant to P. L. 106-113	\$	0	-1,325	0	+1,325
Current	FTE	1,671	1,810	1,810	0
Fire Reimbursable	FTE	40	40	40	0
Central HAZMAT Fund	\$	10,000	10,000	10,000	0
Reduction pursuant to P. L. 106-113	\$	0	-45	0	+45
	FTE	0	0	0	0
Construction	\$	10,997	11,425	11,200	-225
Reduction pursuant to P. L. 106-113	\$	0	-229	0	+229
	FTE	11	13	13	0
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	\$	125,000	135,000	135,000	0
Reduction pursuant to P. L. 106-51	\$	-77	0	0	0
Reduction pursuant to P. L. 106-113	\$	0	-615	0	+615
	FTE	1	1	1	0
Land Acquisition	\$	14,600	15,500	60,900	+45,400
Reduction pursuant to P. L. 106-51	\$	-9	0	0	0
Title VI - Offsetting Collections [non-add]	\$	0	[+24,500]	0	[-24,500]
Current	FTE	32	35	35	0
Reimbursable	FTE	1	0	0	0
Oregon and California Grant Lands	\$	97,037	99,225	104,267	+5,042
Reduction pursuant to P. L. 106-51	\$	-304	0	0	0
Reduction pursuant to P. L. 106-113	\$	0	-450	0	+450
	FTE	992	993	1,000	+7
Range Improvements	\$	10,000	10,000	10,000	0
Reduction pursuant to P. L. 106-51	\$	-95	0	0	0
	FTE	72	72	72	0
Service Charges, Deposits and Forfeitures	\$	11,923	8,800	7,500	-1,300
	FTE	84	84	84	0
Miscellaneous Trust Funds (Indefinite)	\$	11,793	7,700	7,700	0
	FTE	64	65	65	0
<b>Subtotal, Current Appropriations</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,239,112</b>	<b>1,231,402</b>	<b>1,358,955</b>	<b>+127,553</b>
	<b>FTE</b>	<b>9,403</b>	<b>9,576</b>	<b>9,826</b>	<b>+250</b>
<b>Mandatory and Mandatory Trust:</b>					
Miscellaneous Trust Funds (Mandatory)	\$	1,572	1,100	1,100	0
	FTE	11	10	10	0
Miscellaneous Permanent Payment Appropriations	\$	119,166	73,629	72,983	-646
	FTE	0	0	0	0
Payment to Timber Counties and States, Federal Timber Program - Proposed Legislation	\$	0	0	11,000	+11,000
	FTE	0	0	0	0

Appropriations		1999 Actual	2000 Enacted to Date	2001 Budget Requests	Change from 2000 Amount
Permanent Operating Funds	\$	21,441	31,649	43,385	+11,736
	FTE	288	270	270	0
Land Acquisition from Surplus Land Sale - Proposed Legislation	\$	0	0	2,000	+2,000
	FTE	0	0	0	0
Helium Fund					
Authority	\$	18,272	15,000	15,000	0
Offsetting Collection	\$	-18,272	-15,000	-15,000	0
	FTE	67	65	65	0
Working Capital Fund					
Authority	\$	22,676	23,500	24,000	+500
Offsetting Collection	\$	-22,676	-23,500	-24,000	-500
	FTE	18	18	18	0
Allocated FTE	FTE	54	61	61	0
Subtotal, Mandatory and Mandatory Trust	\$	142,179	106,378	130,468	+24,090
	FTE	438	424	424	0
<b>Total, Bureau of Land Management</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,381,291</b>	<b>1,337,780</b>	<b>1,489,423</b>	<b>+151,643</b>
	<b>FTE</b>	<b>9,841</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,250</b>	<b>+250</b>